

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 15) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of May 1, 2019, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

MEASURING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF BROADBAND ACT OF 2019

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1289 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1289) to require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct an assessment and analysis of the effects of broadband deployment and adoption on the economy of the United States, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1289) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1289

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Measuring the Economic Impact of Broadband Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS REGARDING THE EFFECT OF THE DIGITAL ECONOMY ON THE ECONOMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term "appropriate committees of Congress" means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives.

(2) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term "Assistant Secretary" means the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

(3) BROADBAND.—The term "broadband" means an Internet Protocol-based transmission service that enables users to send and receive voice, video, data, or graphics, or a combination of those items.

(4) DIGITAL ECONOMY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the term "digital economy" has the meaning given the term by the Secretary in carrying out this section.

(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing a definition for the term "digital economy" under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall consider—

(i) the digital-enabling infrastructure that a computer network needs to exist and operate; and

(ii) the roles of e-commerce and digital media.

(5) DIGITAL MEDIA.—The term "digital media" means the content that participants in e-commerce create and access.

(6) E-COMMERCE.—The term "e-commerce" means the digital transactions that take place using the infrastructure described in paragraph (4)(B)(i).

(7) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Commerce.

(b) BIENNIAL ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS REQUIRED.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and biennially thereafter, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce and the Assistant Secretary, shall conduct an assessment and analysis regarding the contribution of the digital economy to the economy of the United States.

(c) CONSIDERATIONS AND CONSULTATION.—In conducting each assessment and analysis required under subsection (b), the Secretary shall—

(1) consider the impact of—

(A) the deployment and adoption of—

(i) digital-enabling infrastructure; and

(ii) broadband;

(B) e-commerce and platform-enabled peer-to-peer commerce; and

(C) the production and consumption of digital media, including free media; and

(2) consult with—

(A) the heads of any agencies and offices of the Federal Government as the Secretary considers appropriate, including the Secretary of Agriculture, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and the Federal Communications Commission;

(B) representatives of the business community, including rural and urban internet service providers and telecommunications infrastructure providers;

(C) representatives from State, local, and tribal government agencies; and

(D) representatives from consumer and community organizations.

(d) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report regarding the findings of the Secretary with respect to each assessment and analysis conducted under subsection (b).

PROTECTING AFFORDABLE MORTGAGES FOR VETERANS ACT OF 2019

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1749, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1749) to clarify seasoning requirements for certain refinanced mortgage loans, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 1749) was passed, as follows:

S. 1749

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Protecting Affordable Mortgages for Veterans Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. SEASONING REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN REFINANCED MORTGAGE LOANS.

(a) GINNE MAE.—Section 306(g)(1) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1721(g)(1)) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(b) VETERANS LOANS.—Section 3709(c) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter before paragraph (1), by striking "is refinanced" and inserting "is a refinance"; and

(2) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

"(1) the date on which the borrower has made at least six consecutive monthly payments on the loan being refinanced; and

"(2) the date that is 210 days after the first payment due date of the loan being refinanced.".

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to restrict or otherwise modify the authorities of the Government National Mortgage Association.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF JUNE 1, 2019, THROUGH JUNE 9, 2019, AS "NATIONAL FISHING AND BOATING WEEK"

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee be discharged from further consideration and that the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 174.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 174) expressing support for the designation of the week of June 1, 2019, through June 9, 2019, as "National Fishing and Boating Week".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed